



Raider Review



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U.S. Navy photo by PM 2nd Class Eli Medellin

Pulling perimeter guard... Spc. Marlon Graham from Co.

A, 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., pulls perimeter guard as his team searches an ancient caravansary in Hana Qadim, Iraq. The search was to insure terrorists do not use the structure as a hiding place for illegal weapon caches.

Iron Knights, IPs search, soothe local community

By Spc. C. Terrell Turner
Staff Writer

Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor

Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, conducted a three-phased operation dubbed Operation Resolute Anvil, along with the Iraqi police, as they conducted a cordon and search, a consequence management operation and a medical operation Sept. 1 and Sept.

2 in the Sheik Hamid Village near Camp Taji.

Operation Resolute Anvil was designed to pursue terrorist activity in the area while maintaining strong, supportive ties to the community.

"Our mission was phase two after phase one: the (go to page 16, Operation)

Great to be 'back home' in Iraq

By Col. James Pasquarette
Commander, 1st BCT

Soldiers of the Raider Brigade: time for another update...

It's great to be back in Iraq with the brigade after a couple of weeks of leave with my family at Fort Hood, Texas. I'm recharged and ready to go. I want to thank the battalions for all the great work while I was home – we didn't miss a beat.

While home, I did a couple of things in uniform worth relaying to you. First, my wife and I went to see our Soldiers at Brooke Army Medical Center. They are doing super – and wish they were back on the team here in Iraq. All look forward to meeting their units in a couple of months upon our return. I was able to pin Purple



Hearts, Combat Action Badges and End of Tour awards on some of our Soldiers – it was an honor to do so. A couple of Soldiers of note...

- SPC Joshua Stein (E/1-66 Armor) – who lost both legs from an IED attack on 15 April – is doing fantastically well. I don't think there is another Soldier in the brigade that could be dealing with this situation better than he is currently. He constantly jokes about his handicap – which makes it easier for those around him to interface with him. SPC Stein's one request is to receive his Purple Heart and other Iraq related awards and decorations in front of his company upon return to Fort Hood. I'm clearing my calendar to be there that day.

- SSG Williamson (HHC/1STB) – who lost a foot in early June to an IED – is able to run on his new foot. He should be promoted to Sergeant First Class by the time we arrive back at Fort Hood. He has signed up to participate in triathlons in the area – and is looking forward to continuing his career in the Army.

- SSG Pa'au (B/7-10 Cavalry Regiment) – who was injured on 11

April from an IED – is up and walking and doing great. He asked about how the troop is doing – and continues to recover from his burns.

- Lieutenant Wellensiek (1-22 Infantry) is walking with the aid of a crutch and had just returned from some convalescent leave in Nebraska.

It was so good to see these Soldiers in their current state. The last time I had seen each of them was at the 10th CSH in Baghdad immediately after they had been wounded in combat. With the exception of SSG Williamson, they were heavily sedated and fighting for their life at the time. It's a helpless, terrible feeling as a commander to see your Soldiers in such condition. Seeing them up and about with their families was inspirational – and made me proud to be in the United States Army.

I also had the opportunity to brief our families at Fort Hood and answer their individual questions after the briefing. Our families are doing well dealing with the separation and look forward to our arrival back at Fort (go to page 5, 1st BCT, 1st Cav.)

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To contribute to the *Raider Review* contact the 1st BCT Public Affairs Office or send stories, photos and information to brent.hunt@BCT1ID4.army.mil.

Maj. Gen. J.D. Thurman
4th Inf. Div. commander

Col. James Pasquarette
1st BCT commander

Maj. David Olson
1st BCT PAO

1st Lt. Adam Moore
1st BCT Deputy PAO

Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt
Raider Review editor/NCOIC

Spc. C. Terrell Turner
Staff writer

Spc. Ross Salwolke
Staff broadcaster



Some things to think about when you redeploy back to Fort Hood

By Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Wells
Command Sergeant Major, 1st BCT

Always store beer in a dark place.

- Always listen to the experts. They'll tell you what can't be done, and why. Then do it.
- If you don't like yourself, you can't like other people.
- Never appeal to a man's "better



nature" He may not have one.

Invoking his self-interest gives you more leverage.

- Little girls, like butterflies, need no excuse.
- Always think of your wife and children before yourself.
- A human being should be able to change a diaper, plan an invasion, butcher a hog, conn a ship, design a building, write a poem, balance accounts, build a wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone, solve equations, analyze a new problem, pitch manure, program a computer, cook a good meal, fight efficiently. Specialization is for insects.
- Do not handicap your children by making their lives easy.

- Rub her feet.
- Sovereign ingredient for a happy marriage: Pay cash or do without. Interest charges not only eat up a household budget; awareness of debt eats up domestic bliss.
- Money is a powerful aphrodisiac. But flowers work almost as well.
- In an argument, if it turns out you are right, apologize to her at once!
- In handling a stinging insect, move very slowly.
- Keep your children short on pocket money and long on hugs.
- Never try to out-stubborn a cat.
- Formal courtesy between husband and wife is even more important than it is between strangers.
- Don't try to have the last word. You might get it.

There is no greater sacrifice...

Sgt. Luis A. Montes
Scouts, 1st Bn., 22nd Inf. Regt.
March 11, 1984 - Sept. 7, 2006

Cpl. Russell M. Makowski
Btry. B, 4th Bn., 42nd FA Regt.
Jan. 18, 1983 - Sept. 14, 2006

Sgt. Jennifer M. Hartman
Co. E FSC, 4th Spt. Bn.
May 21, 1985 - Sept. 14, 2006

Cpl. Marcus A. Cain
Co. E, FSC, 4th Spt. Bn.
March 22, 1986 - Sept. 14, 2006

Spc. Jared J. Raymond
Co. D, 1st Bn., 66th AR
Feb. 24, 1986 - Sept. 19, 2006

Master Sgt. Robb G. Needham
2-1-1 Iraqi Nat'l Police PTT
Oct. 26, 1954 - Sept. 20, 2006

Staff Sgt. Carlos Dominguez
Co. A, 414th CABn., 1st STB
Aug. 31, 1949 - Sept. 23, 2006

Cpl. Chase A. Haag
1st Bn., 22nd Inf. Regt.
June 11, 1984 - Oct. 2, 2006

Staff Sgt. James D. Ellis
Trp. A, 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt.
April 16, 1981 - Oct. 2, 2006

Spc. Kristofer C. Walker
Trp. A, 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt.
Dec. 21, 1985 - Oct. 2, 2006

Spc. Santos R. Armijo
Trp. A, 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt.
April 1, 1984 - Oct. 2, 2006

Spc. Justin R. Jarrett
Trp. A, 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt.
March 7, 1985 - Oct. 2, 2006

Raider Brigade Chaplain's Corner:

Family is so important, let them know

By Chaplain (Capt.) John Hill
1st Bn., 22nd Inf. Regt. Chaplain

What is the most important thing in your life? Most of us, when we think about it, truthfully answer; my family. I hope this true for you.

Since family is so important, it is hard when we have to be separated from the ones we love for such a long time. The value we place in our family does not change, and should not, even though we are deployed and far from home.

What can we do while separated to keep connected with our family? Here are some ways to keep the ties to family strong while deployed: Always find new ways to communicate and stay emotionally connected. This is even more important as the process of reunion and reintegration approaches. We should expect some friction with our family members during this time of reintegration. This is natural and you should expect it. It helps to remember that after a period of transition we will feel comfortable being back with our loved ones again.

There are things we can do right now to make the transition back home with family smoother. These things cost practically nothing but pay rich dividends: send each of your family members a postcard. Send your loved one flowers, a love letter, or some token of your love. These little acts help your loved one stay emotionally

Three keys to any lasting relationship

Commitment

Commitment, fidelity, and purity are the greatest aphrodisiacs known—commitment to God and your spouse. If you don't commit to your spouse, with trust and purity, you will poison your relationship. Make a promise to stay true in body and soul, no matter how long your separation and you'll reap the rewards.

Intimacy

Intimacy means sharing closely and deeply your thoughts, hopes, dreams, feelings, fears, successes, failures, etc., with the one to whom you are committed. Intimacy is like maximum friendship! With it, your love can face anything.

Passion

A couple's passion is the product of commitment and intimacy. Passion does not work by itself for very long. Work hard on commitment and intimacy and you will enjoy God's best with passion. Even when you are apart physically, court your lover.

connected to you as we approach the sometimes stressful time of transition back home. Remember, while you might not be stressed out by the transition back home, your loved ones very well might be. Sending flowers or other small tokens of your love and affection helps move things in a positive direction.

What causes you the most sorrow and grief is very often what is most valuable to you. It is true those we love are the ones who can hurt us the most. This is just another way of saying that our family is, indeed, the most important thing in our life. Let's all take some small steps today; right now to strengthen the emotional ties with our loved ones back home.

A letter, card, a small gift from the Taji Shop is one very practical way to start. We all like to receive care packages. Your loved ones at home

do too. Show them this week that you have been thinking of them.

Please allow me to pray for you right now.

Almighty God, you know the struggles, trials, triumphs and joys we have all experienced during this deployment. You are the God who makes a way when there seems to be no way. Right now I ask that you would wrap your loving, tender, compassionate arms around our families and loved ones. Keep them in your constant care and quicken our hearts and minds each day with the reality that YOU are taking good care of them. May you grant exactly what we need to sustain us throughout the rest of this separation. Change our attitudes and perspective to help us through the hard times we face. In the Holy Name of Jesus the Christ. AMEN!

1st BCT, 1st Cav., ready to relieve Raiders

————— (continued from page 2) Hood (to say the least...) There were lots of questions on what is in store for the brigade and their particular Soldier. I have always enjoyed briefing Army spouses – I respect immensely what they are asked to put up with being married to a Soldier.

Finally, I was able to meet with 1st Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division's key leaders to brief them on our area of operation and lessons learned to date. They are ready to go – and are well-postured to pick up the operation from us. They are a super unit with great leadership. I foresee no problems with the relief in place.

It was a great leave, but as stated above, I'm glad to be "back home" to

finish up our mission here. We're making some great progress on improving the essential services in many parts of our part of Iraq. Additionally, we have turned over the towns of Tarmiya and Saba al Bohr to the Iraqi Police. This is a huge step forward given where we were in January. We continue in a tough fight against the insurgents and are working to quell the sectarian violence. The anticipated surge in attacks during Ramadan are underway.

As I've stated in the past, I want you to maintain your focus what is happening today and remain disciplined in the application of standards until we are done here. Doing otherwise puts you and your

buddies at risk. It is challenging enough as soon as you "go red" with your weapon system at the Taji gate... it's more challenging when you're stupid.

Finally, for those Soldiers eligible, reenlistment bonuses kick back in on 1 October. The brigade met its reenlistment goals about 45 days ago for FY06. See your career counselor – he'll let you know your options. We already have about 60 Soldiers lined up to reenlist after 1 Oct.

OK – got to get some sleep. I continue to be extremely proud of how you are doing here in Iraq. Keep up the great work.

Colonel Jim Pasquarette
Raider 6



U.S. Navy photo by PM 2nd Class Eli Medellin

Iron Knights on patrol... Soldiers from 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., patrol a road at sunset during a cordon and search operation in Sheik Hamid Sept. 28 to gain information on terrorists cells operating in the area.

4-42 FA, IPs patrolling Taji Market

By Spc. C. Terrell Turner
Staff Writer

The Iraqi police continue to work on improving their peacekeeping skills as they conduct missions along side Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldiers in the northern Baghdad region, recently.

Currently, Battery B, 4th Battalion, 42nd Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, operates in tandem with local Iraqi police forces in the Assyria Village and Taji Market areas. Btry. B went into Taji Market to talk with local nationals in the area.

This is a new mission for Btry. B who just swapped missions with Btry. A to go from manning an entry control point to patrolling the towns and roads right outside Camp Taji.

"This was an initial security assessment mission basically," said Capt. Tucker Shosh, commander, Btry. B, 4th Bn., 42nd FA Regt. "To go into Taji Market and get a feel for the people and how they feel about the Iraqi army and Iraqi police in the area and get the Iraqi police more involved to facilitate the long-term turnover of responsibility."

The goal for Btry. B is to bring the Iraqi police along for every mission in Taji Market and Assyria Village according to Shosh.

Assyria Village is a former military town from the days of Camp Taji's previous incarnation as officer housing for the Iraqi Republican Guard. In fact, one of the local sheiks of the



U.S. Army photo by Spc. C. Terrell Turner

Pfc. Bill Easteridge, field artilleryman, Btry. B, 4th Bn., 42nd FA Regt., 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., stands guard while Capt. Tucker Shosh, commander, Btry. B, talks with local nationals at a gas station near Camp Taji, recently.

region is a retired sergeant major who meets weekly with Shosh, the Troop C, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regt., 1st BCT commander and a civil affairs representative.

"We meet with the local sheiks every week to discuss concerns with the local nahias," said Shosh. "There was a sniper incident against the Iraqi army checkpoint next to the market and there were concerns among the sheiks about security. The problem is that we talk to the locals who tell us 'we have no concerns, thanks for stopping by.'"

Despite the initial inconsistencies and no serious incidents reported in just over a month, Shosh plans to continue to speak to local nationals, hand out tip cards and give them contact numbers hoping that someone will call on their own.

"The complaints that we do get about sectarian violence and crime are problems the Iraqi police handle," said Shosh. "The Iraqi army will be pretty busy in the long term. I see the Iraqi army and Iraqi police working

side by side. They have a mutual respect for one another, because I think they realize they are both out there to help the country."

For Kazil Mohammed, a rookie policeman with three months on the job in the Taji area, this opportunity is a new beginning.

"I was unemployed before I became a police officer," he said. "I joined to serve our country and provide security for the people."

Mohammed is from the southern Iraq area and says he enjoys the work he does for the people in the area.

"Most of the people here deal with us with good intentions and tell us they appreciate what we do," he said. "There are good people here and a few bad people. For the most part, I find that the people say they would like more day and night patrols to make them feel safer."

Currently, Btry. B, 4th Bn., 42nd FA Regt. and the Iraqi police continue to conduct mounted and dismounted patrols in the Taji and Assyria Village areas.

1st BCT holds medical operation

By Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt
Editor, Raider Review

In an effort to bring the local Iraqi populace and Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldiers closer together, Soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, conducted a medical and humanitarian aid operation at the Punjaj Clinic just outside the gates of Camp Taji, recently.

More than 300 local residents showed up at the rural clinic where two U.S. Army doctors, medics, two Iraqi nurses, a local pharmacist and a civil affairs team brought medicine and other supplies to the small farming community north of Baghdad.

“The medical operation gives them (Iraqi residents) a chance to get medications they can’t normally get



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Capt. Aixa Espinosa, physician, Co. C, 4th Spt. Bn., 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., examines a two year old Iraqi girl as her father comforts her at a medical operation held at the Punjaj Clinic just outside the gates of Camp Taji, Aug. 28.

and it strengthens the relationship between the Coalition and local members of the community,” said Capt. Lee Howard, civil affairs officer for Team 5, Company C, 414th CA Battalion, attached to the 1st Special

Troops Bn., 1st BCT. “We usually see between 150 and 300 people at these operations. In addition to the medicine, we are also handing out soccer balls, sleeping mats, 1,000 (go to page 14, Civil Affairs) —

Co. A, 4SB removed disabled IP trucks

By SSG Christopher Hanna
Co. A, 4th Spt. Bn.

Soldiers from Company A, 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, helped the Iraqi police by picking up disabled police vehicles throughout the 1st BCT area of responsibility north of Baghdad.

The vehicles were recovered from police stations, brought back to Camp Taji where mechanics from the 463rd Military Police Company, attached to the 1st BCT, made the necessary repairs and then redistributed them back to the perspective stations after they were repaired.

“This is a great way for us to help the Iraqis take control of their own (go to page 14, IP trucks)



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

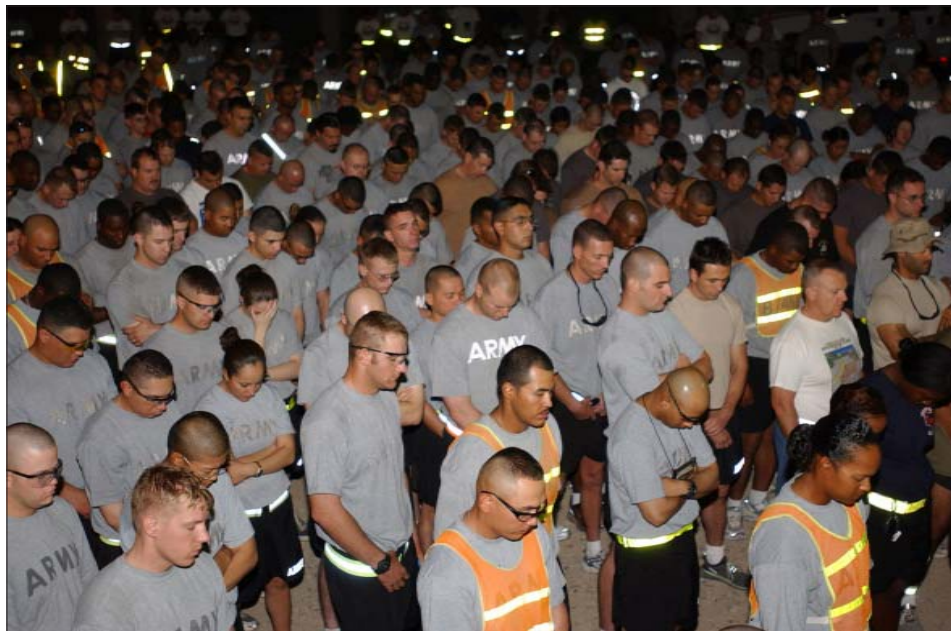
Staff Sgt. David Maye, truck driver, Co. A, 4th Spt. Bn., 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., ties down an Iraqi police vehicle to the back of a wrecker in Taji. Soldiers of the company took eight disabled IP trucks from the Taji Police Station and brought them back to Camp Taji where they were refurbished and redistributed back to the police stations.

Taji hosts 9/11 Memorial 5K Run

By Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt
Editor, Raider Review

Five years ago, at 8:46 a.m., a hijacked Boeing 767 wide-body aircraft crashed into the north tower of New York's World Trade Center sparking one of the most infamous days in U.S. history leaving more than 3,200 dead from 90 different countries and plunging the world into the Global War on Terrorism.

As Soldiers continue the fight against terrorism in Afghanistan, Iraq and across the world, Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldiers and civilians on Camp Taji took time out of their day Sept. 11 morning to participate in a 9/11 Memorial 5K Race to honor those who died that



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

More than 1,100 Soldiers and civilians on Camp Taji take a moment of silence Sept. 11 before starting the 9/11 Memorial 5 K Race. The run was held on the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on New York, Washington and Pennsylvania killing more than 3,200 people from 90 different countries.

fateful day and to serve as a reminder why MND-B Soldiers are so far away from home in the Middle East battling terrorists.

"I did it because of September 11 and no other reason," said 1st Lt. Michael Bigda, maintenance officer, Company F, 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, who won the race with a time of 17:02. "I wish the ones who died that day could be doing this run here today. This event reminds us why we are here."

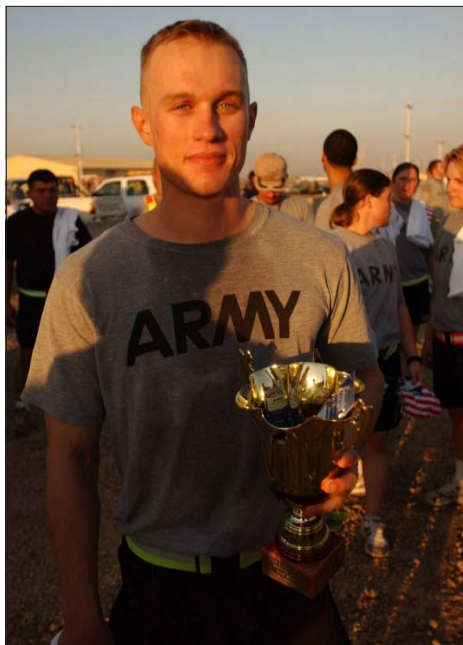
More than 1,100 Soldiers and civilians participated in the event on the camp north of Baghdad. Prior to the race, Chaplain (Capt.) Mark Rendon, 4th Support Battalion, 1st BCT, talked about his own personal memories of that time in U.S. history.

"In the aftermath of 9/11, flags were hanging everywhere,"

he said. "Manufacturers couldn't keep up with the demand. For many the flags have come down and some ask why we are here. But five years later, I still hang my flag and I pray for the families that still struggle from that day."

Although some participants of the race ran for personal reasons, others just wanted to run.

"I'm a runner, and I've been training all year," said Sgt. Dale Hart, armament repair, Co. D, 4th Bn., 4th Aviation Regt., CAB, 4th Inf. Div., who is 45 years old and placed third in the race with a time of 17:30. "I'm happy. I wanted to place in the top five, so third is all right. I'm hoping when I get back to Fort Hood to compete in the Houston Marathon, which I'm going to dedicate to my daughter who will be two years old when I get back. I think the 9/11 run was a great idea."



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

1st Lt. Michael Bigda, maintenance officer, Co. F, 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., captured first place in the Camp Taji 9/11 Memorial 5K Race. Bigda won the race with a time of 17:02.

1-66 AR, Psyop, IP look for recruits

By Spc. C. Terrell Turner
Staff Writer

As Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldiers continue to assist the Iraqi Ministry of Interior in securing and stabilizing the region, Soldiers from Company B, 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, and the 303rd Tactical Psychological Operations Co., which is attached to the 1st BCT, accompanied Iraqi police forces into Hor al Bash Sept. 7 for a police recruitment drive.

As plans move forward to build an Iraqi police station near the town, MND-B Soldiers are looking for local recruits to help reassure the people of Hor al Bash, said 1st Lt. Peter Calvello, platoon leader, 2nd Platoon, Co. B, 1st Bn., 66th AR.

"We're here to inform and



U.S. Army photo by Spc. C. Terrell Turner

Soldiers from Co. B, 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., and the 303rd Tactical Psyop Co., which is attached to the 1st BCT, talk to Iraqi youth Sept. 7 from Hor al Bash along with an Iraqi police officer during a recruitment drive.

convince people of the validity of the Iraqi police and to encourage them to volunteer and answer any questions they may have," he said. "It's our goal to get them to participate in the drive and urge them to volunteer to help their community."

The 463rd Military Police Co., which is attached to the 1st BCT, accompanied an Iraqi police patrol to Hor al Bash to demonstrate the teamwork and cooperation between MND-B Soldiers and the Iraqi Security Forces. The 303rd Tactical Psyop Co. and Co. B, 1st Bn., 66th AR walked around the village and local market to discuss the opportunity and find volunteers. This mission also received support from local council members.

"We talked to the sheik's son, who is a local council member. He's helping us find volunteers," said Staff Sgt. Frederick Hartz, team chief, 303rd Tactical Psyop Co. "The goal

is to have more diversity in the police force and more balance between the Shia and Sunni. Having more Sunni police from this area will allow there to be more peace and cohesion in the area."

Interested volunteers from the age of 21 to 35 years old were able to bring their documentation: a valid identification, proof of completion of intermediary school and a birth certificate to a local official in Hor al Bash that day for approval before applying for the job.

"Things are changing here slowly with the nahias getting involved by bringing civil affairs projects, fixing things, providing generators and health and welfare operations," said Hartz. "There are a few people who say they are interested and most of the people are friendly and open to talk to us. We are trying to get everyone more involved in their communities."



U.S. Army photo by Spc. C. Terrell Turner

Staff Sgt. Frederick Hartz, team chief, 303rd Tactical Psyop Co., which is attached to the 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., stands with an Iraqi police officer during a police recruitment mission with Co. B, 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT, in the town of Hor al Bash, Sept. 7

HHT, 7-10 has new commander

By Spc. C. Terrell Turner
Staff Writer

The “Headhunters” of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, welcomed a new commander during a change of command ceremony.

Capt. Casey Coyle relinquished command to incoming commander Capt. David Lombardo at the ceremony along with Lt. Col. Dave Thompson, commander, 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt., and 1st Sgt. Martino Barcinas.

Coyle moves on to work in the 4th Inf. Div. Headquarters Operations Section. He commanded the Headhunters for 22 months when they deployed with the division to Iraq and to the National Training



U.S. Army photo by Spc. C. Terrell Turner

Capt. David Lombardo, commander, HHT, 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt., 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., sings the 4th Inf. Div. March after his assumption of command at a change of command ceremony, Aug. 30.

Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. He said he savored his time with his Soldiers.

“The most special thing about my time here has been the Soldiers,” said Coyle. “There are some unique characters in the troop who are hardworking and dedicated. There’s great camaraderie. In the face of multiple deployments, they keep

coming back for more.”

Lombardo, comes to the troop from division headquarters to take command. He said he was excited since first hearing about his new assignment.

“This is every captain’s dream,” said Lombardo. “I look forward to the completion of this tour of Operation Iraqi Freedom and a safe redeployment without mishaps.”

HHT currently performs support operations with administrative and logistical support of the command staff in the battalion as well as providing security for civil affairs missions and local council support. Barcinas points at his Soldiers’ positive attitude as the key to their success.

“This is the best command I’ve had so far; Soldiers are willing to do any mission they get and are mission focused,” he said. “They continue to stay motivated. We must continue to stay the course, motivation-wise, until our last night out here.”



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Cleveland Cavalier cheerleaders... The dance team visited Camp Taji and performed a variety of routines for Soldiers, Sept. 21.

Soldiers stay motivated, stay Army

By Spc. C. Terrell Turner
Staff Writer

The 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, recently met its reenlistment goals while deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

By mid-August, the brigade retained the specific number of Soldiers needed for the division and the Army as a whole.

"This year we paid out more than \$8 million in bonuses," said Staff Sgt. Roland Stamm, brigade career counselor, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 1st BCT.

"During this deployment we have reenlisted more than 600 people."

There are five basic options for reenlistment: regular Army, current station stabilization, Army training, overseas and continental U.S. station of choice. The eligibility of the reenlistment options are based on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, estimated time of separation from military service and the date and category of reenlistment based on a Soldier's qualifications and desired options.

"April by far was our busiest month, because that was when all of the available assignments opened up," said Stamm. "We take care of everyone who comes through our door. Each battalion reenlistment NCO (non-commissioned officer)

brings their Soldiers records to us to screen and create their contracts."

The brigade works through battalion reenlistment NCOs to coordinate and manage reenlistments.

"We have four career counselors here at the brigade and each handle two battalions. Each battalion has a full-time reenlistment non-commissioned officer," said Master Sgt. James Nicolai, brigade career counselor, HHD, 1st BCT. "The division retention office determines our mission and we touch base with them at least once a week."

Throughout the year there have been several different types of reenlistment ceremonies varying from large groups to video teleconferenced reenlistments with family members (go to page 13, *Reenlistments*)

IPs, MPs tie 3-3 in tough soccer match

Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt
Editor, *Raider Review*

Soldiers from the 463rd Military Police Company, which is attached to the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, took on Iraqi policemen from Saab al Bour in a soccer match Sept. 21 on Camp Taji ending in a 3-3 tie.

The back and forth match was held between the policemen as a way to build trust and confidence between the two squads



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

An Iraqi policeman from Saab al Bour gets ready to score a goal on the goalie from the 463rd MP Co., which is attached to the 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., during a soccer match held between the two police squads Sept. 21 on Camp Taji. The game ended in a 3-3 tie.

who have been working together to get the IPs trained, staffed, outfitted and validated to take control of the city.

The Saab al Bour Police Station officially took the lead for security Sept. 20 in their city north of Baghdad.

"We are doing this to

build trust and esprit de corps," said 1st Sgt. Bill Hutchings, 463rd MP Co. "Plus, this will get them in better shape and we can see how they work as a team. It's sports and this is the best way to see how they do as a team."

The MPs got the idea for the game when they noticed that when the World Cup was on television recently, the IPs were always watching it. The Iraqis challenged the Americans to a game, because they thought the MPs could never beat the IPs because they were used (go to page 13, *MPs*)

IPs take lead at Tarmiya ceremony

By Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt
Editor, Raider Review

Policemen from Tarmiya officially took control of security Sept. 16 from the Iraqi army and Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldiers at an "IP in the Lead Ceremony" held in Tarmiya north of Baghdad.

Tarmiya was surrounded with concrete walls and concertina wire by the 9th Iraqi Army Division and 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Div. Soldiers on March 25 to prevent terrorist activity and to protect citizens from outside terrorists.

Since then Soldiers set up a patrol base inside the city, operated entry control points, patrolled 24/7 and



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Lt. Col. Rocky Kmiecik, commander, 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., shakes the hands of each Iraqi policeman Sept. 16 at the IPs in the lead ceremony held at Tarmiya. The Tarmiya police now have control of security for the city north of Baghdad.

are still improving the city with a fresh water line and multiple civil upgrades.

"Today is a great day for the city of Tarmiya," said Lt. Col. Rocky Kmiecik, commander, 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st BCT. "On the 25th of March of this year, Coalition Forces moved in and occupied this

city. At that time the city had very few police and no police cars.

"Working with Sheik (Saeed) Jassim and the city council, we wanted to achieve security of the city before Ramadan," Kmiecik added. "We asked for volunteers from the city to help us achieve that. These fine young men (Tarmiya policemen at the ceremony) went to Jordan and got trained as policemen. Now the city has policemen and trucks. Since they (the IPs) have taken control of the city, the Iraqi army has been able to go to Baghdad and help secure that city. Also, Coalition Forces are now able to leave this city as well. Today is a very proud day for the city of Tarmiya."

Tarmiya now has a staff of more than 145 police officers who are equipped

with uniforms, bullets, Glockes, AK-47s, uniforms and body armor. Also, they have new trucks with radios that help them maintain a presence and keep in constant communication with each.

"They are now in total control of the town," said 2nd Lt. Mitchell Thompson, platoon leader, 463rd Military Police Company, which is attached to the 1st BCT. "They have been trained on patrols, QRF (quick reaction force), entry control points and the maintenance of their new vehicles. Basically, anything having to do with police work they have been trained on."

MPs from the 463rd MP Co. have been working hand in hand with the Tarmiya IPs giving classes and mentoring them as they conduct police work throughout the city.

Many Tarmiya policemen are very proud they are now becoming part of securing their city and its future.

"This is my country and I'm proud," said Methaq, a newly trained policeman in Tarmiya who has lived there for 17 years. "I'm happy we are now in control of Tarmiya. We are here to fight against the terrorists and help keep the people in our city safe."



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Saab al Bour IPs take lead... Children from Saab al Bour wave the Iraqi flag as policemen from Saab al Bour took the lead for security, Sept. 20.

MPs score goal in last minutes of game

(continued from page 11) to seeing the MPs with all their gear on and that made them slow.

"Americans are pretty good at soccer, so we are going to show you (the IPs) when all this training is over," said Hutchings. "Just wait until we take all this gear off."

The MPs struck first during the game when they kicked in a penalty shot on the Iraqi defense ending the first half with a 1-0 lead.

Five minutes into the second half, the IPs tied the game up with a penalty shot to the net. Within five minutes of the tying goal,

the MPs from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., kicked in another goal to take the lead 2-1. Then within two minutes, the IPs finessed the ball down the field to tie the game at two goals a piece.

After the scoring frenzy, both teams battled back and forth on the playing field. Then with seven minutes left in the game, the IPs hit a long shot in on the Americans taking a 3-2 lead. Determined not to go down without a fight, the MPs, with only two minutes left and the game on the line, drove the ball down the field and hit a shot into



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Soldiers from the 463rd MP Co., and policemen from Saab al Bour shake each others hands after a soccer match between the two.

the net tying the game and keeping bragging rights reserved between the two police units until the next time they match up against each other.

"This was a good, intense game," said Azhr, a policeman from Saab al

Bour. "This is the first time this has ever happened. We have been working very hard on getting validated and then yesterday we took control of Saab al Bour. This is a great relief from working very hard all the time."

Reenlistments remain steady for 1BCT

(continued from page 11) back home.

"We had one mass reenlistment formation of 60 Soldiers in Kuwait and several groups of ones and twos," Nicolai said. "Most of them are single reenlistments."

The reason people decide to reenlist can vary based on where the Soldier is in their career and what they want to accomplish.

"I've been in about 19 years. I came in 1987 initially with a four-year contract. I reenlisted when my window opened in 1990 during Desert Storm," said Sgt. 1st Class John Elliott, equal opportunity advisor, HHD, 1st BCT, who is also working with the brigade Civil Affairs Team during the brigade's OIF tour. "I reenlisted again in 1994, 1997 and for

the last time in 1999; I never received any bonuses, I stayed in because it was something I wanted to do. Ultimately, I believe that it's a decision that every Soldier has to make for himself."

Elliott started his Army career at Fort Benning, Ga., with basic training, advanced individual training and Airborne school. The rest of his time has been spent at Fort Polk, La., Fort Chaffee, Ark., Germany and Fort Hood, Texas.

"I have no regrets," he added. "I've done everything with my career I wanted to do."

"I've been with the brigade for two years, it's great. I really like 1st Brigade and wanted to stay," said Spc. Anthony Wilsey, supply and transportation logistics specialist,

HHD, 1st BCT. "My boss, Maj. (Carlos) Powell, (brigade logistics officer, HHD, 1st BCT) reenlisted me. My entire office was there. I'm trying to go to flight training school as a warrant officer, but if that doesn't work out then I will deploy again with the brigade and that would be the next best thing."

The next reenlistment mission begins Oct. 1, the beginning of the fiscal year, when the division receives its annual mission requirements from the Department of the Army.

"I contribute our success in meeting mission to our great NCOs," said Nicolai. "All of the chains of commands are involved. The Soldiers know they (chains of commands) really care about them and want them to remain a part of the team."

Civil Affairs gives out toys, blankets, water

—(continued from page 7)

Beanie Babies for the kids and a lot of water.”

The 1st BCT has been holding these types of operations since they set foot in Iraq eight months ago in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. These operations help local Iraqi people, who have trouble making it to Baghdad to see a doctor and get the medications they need.

“The biggest problem I see is they are not drinking enough water,” said Capt. Aixa Espinosa, physician, Co. C, 4th Support Bn., 1st BCT. “When you don’t drink enough water, you start to develop kidney stones and other problems such as urinary track infections and diarrhea start to arise.

“A lot of what we do here is evaluate and then advise them what they should do next,” Espinosa added. “A lot of these people have chronic problems such as diabetes.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

An Iraqi girl sports a new Beanie Baby she received from Co. C, 414th CA Bn., attached to the 1st STB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., Soldiers at a medical operation held at the Punjaj Clinic just outside the gates of Camp Taji.

Unfortunately, I am not able to follow up on the chronic problems, but at least I can help them with minor health problems and give them some

medication to help them with that.”

While the parents of the community were inside seeing the physicians, outside the infamous, “Mister, Mister,” could be heard as hundreds of children gathered around the back of a MND-B truck where CA Soldiers handed out goodies to the children and some gifts for the parents coming out of the clinic. The girls received a Beanie Baby, the boys received a Hot Wheels car and the parents received blankets, sleeping mats and water.

“We really appreciate the help Coalition forces have given us here today,” said a local woman who brought her ten year old daughter in for a chronic bloody nose. “The doctor gave me some drops to moisten up the inside of her nose and the Soldiers outside gave my daughter a baby to sleep with at night. Now she is very happy and so am I.”

IP trucks refurbished, returned; New Chevrolet 3500 trucks at region's stations

—(continued from page 7)

country,” said Staff Sgt. Tracey Mayhan, senior heavy wheeled vehicle operator, Co. A. “Some of these vehicles are only a few months old, but because of the constant use and road conditions the Iraqi police encounter on a daily basis they are in pretty bad shape.”

The repairs on the vehicles range from a flat tire or dead battery to no tires, batteries, or even an

engine. Repairing the vehicles is only part of what Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldiers are doing for the Iraqi police. Soldiers from the 1st BCT are also distributing 96 new Chevrolet 3500 series trucks to police stations in Saab al Bour, Tarmiya, Taji and Mushada. These vehicles will improve the IPs ability to patrol cities throughout the region.

“When we first arrived, their (IPs in the 1st BCT

AOR) level of functionality was the lowest it could possibly be,” said Sgt. 1st Class Ronnie Hudson, operations sergeant, 463rd MP Co. “In the seven months I’ve been here, almost every station has improved dramatically.

“They were really low on resources and personnel,” Hudson added. “Since then, they’ve gained a lot of resources and personnel which has improved their functionality

as police stations. These vehicles should have a huge affect on their communities and help them get the AIF (anti-Iraqi forces) out of their cities.”

“I can’t think of anyone more deserving than the Iraqi police getting these new trucks,” said Pfc. Timothy Cyganiewicz, heavy wheeled vehicle operator, Co. A. “These guys are out there on a daily basis making Iraq a better place to live.”

Scenes around the Raider Brigade



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Pvt. Nicole Manley, medic, Co. C, 4th Spt. Bn., checks the ears of a young Iraqi girl for an ear infection at a medical operation in Sheik Hamid Village north of Baghdad.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

From left, Spc. Michael Johnson, medic, Sgt. Jeremiah Gunderson, medic, and Staff Sgt. Chris Melendez, scout, all with HHC, 1st Bn., 66th AR, entertain Soldiers at the 1st BCT Prayer Breakfast held in the Command Sgt. Maj. Cooke Dining Facility on Camp Taji.



U.S. Army photo courtesy of 4th Spt. Bn.

From left, 1st Lt. Alexandra Cioffi and her twin sister 1st Lt. Christiana Cioffi, platoon leader, 4th Spt. Bn., reunited after six months apart.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Soldiers from the 4th Bn., 42nd FA Regt., take time out of their day to get a picture taken with their best friends.



U.S. Army photo by Capt. Jana Fajardo

Staff Sgt. Christopher Hanna, Co. A, 4th Spt. Bn., lifts a barrier into place.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Brian Stocker

Staff Sgt. Phillip Clark, wheeled vehicle operator, Co. A, 4th Spt. Bn., and an Iraqi army soldier from the Transportation Co., Logistics Bn., 2nd Tank Bde., 9th IA Div., pull a cable from a Heavy Equipment Transport System (HETS) during their driver's training on Camp Taji.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Spc. Nathan Straw, fire direction control specialist, HHB, 4th Bn., 42nd FA Regt., stands guard at a force protection exercise held on Camp Taji.



U.S. Army photo by Master Sgt. Alfredo Pacheco

Soldiers from the 1st STB fill roadside bomb holes with sand bags and concrete on Allan Road near Camp Taji.

Operation Anvil promotes MND-B Soldiers

(continued from page 1)

cordon and search. It was about keeping the local citizens informed and promoting Coalition and Iraqi security in the area,” said Maj. Peter Dargle, plans and operations officer, 1st Bn., 66th AR. “We let them know about phase three, the medical operation, and improvements we are making in their area to improve the quality of life for the local populace.”

Upcoming civil projects in the area include a new pipeline and a water treatment facility.

The 303rd Psychological Operations Company, attached to the 1st BCT, broadcasted messages throughout the area and spoke to the locals while passing out handbills with tip line numbers on them.

“Basically we were broadcasting messages letting everyone know that there will be a medical operation, an upcoming water project and rewards offered for information on caches and bad guys,” said Cpl. Richard Behana, team chief, Team 1123, 303rd Psyop Co. “Our other mission was to talk to people and collect information on how the locals feel about the Iraqi army, Iraqi police and Coalition Forces or atmospherics as we call them.”

Atmospherics collected over time allow the psychological operations unit to monitor ongoing changes of opinion in multiple areas of operation.

“We’ve been collecting atmospherics in this area for the last six months,” said Cpl. Bill Whitehill, assistant team leader, Team 1123, 303rd Psyop Co. “We’ve noticed that it’s definitely getting better since we started getting projects in here.”

The Psyop mission directly followed the cordon and search



U.S. Army photo by Spc. C. Terrell Turner

Sgt. Josh Cuddy, team chief, Det. 1120, 303rd Psyop Co., attached to the 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., kicks a soccer ball back to an Iraqi child recently during an assessment mission alongside 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT, in the Sheik Hamid Village. During the mission, Cuddy distributed anti-terrorism pamphlets to the locals while members of the Iron Knights Battalion talked to locals about how they felt about the Iraqi army and the Iraqi police immediately after a cordon and search.

mission so closely that the two convoys passed one another going to and from the objective area.

“Part of the mission objective is to provide humanitarian assistance to the local nationals in case they are agitated,” said Dargle. “We come in right behind them and try to make peace in case of a bad situation. We engage them in discussion and provide humanitarian items in order to allow the other unit to leave with their detainees and any possible evidence without having to settle down the people.”

The mission has been a successful one for 1st Bn., 66th AR.

“We found a possible IED (improvised explosive device) cache and detained five individuals,” said Dargle. “It was an interesting mission. When we talked to the people a lot of their needs coincided with our

upcoming projects. So it was good for us to be able to give them immediate feedback.”

On Sept. 1, a medical operation was conducted for residents of the community. Hundreds showed up as two MND-B doctors, an Iraqi doctor and MND-B medics provided residents of the community with a check-up and free pharmaceuticals while civil affairs Soldiers handed out supplies.

“We coordinated with a local medical supplier to get some medicine for the people,” said Staff Sgt. Dail Harris, civil affairs non-commissioned officer, 414th Civil Affairs Bn., which is attached to the 1st Special Troops Bn., 1st BCT. “This is my second Medop (medical operation) that I’ve been on. I think we are starting to make a difference in these communities.”